

very outgoing, happy, smart, and full of energy. After graduating high school in June 2009, James enlisted in the Army. According to his family, James decided in high school that he wanted to join the military. Family and friends remember James as a hard worker who enjoyed military life and thrived in that environment. His plans were to continue his military career and become a registered nurse. For his selfless commitment to the Army and outstanding dedication to his country, James is worthy of the highest praise. For his courage and sacrifice, James has been honored by the military with the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the NATO medal, the Combat Medic Badge, and the Parachutist Badge. Although only a young man, James gained immense respect from those around him, and he was admired in his community. He will be greatly missed and forever cherished by those who loved him.

Specialist Butz leaves behind a loving family. He is survived by his adoring parents, John and Mary Jane Butz. James also leaves to cherish his memory his brothers, John and William. He also leaves behind many other dear friends and family members, as well as a saddened community and a grateful nation.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army Specialist James A. Butz. Specialist Butz sacrificed his life in service to his country, and his passing comes as a great loss to our nation, which has once again been shaken by the realities of war. Specialist Butz will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

IN MEMORY OF MR. GEORGE
CONDON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mr. George Condon, an iconic journalist, author and historian that truly loved the City of Cleveland.

Born in Falls River, Massachusetts, George was the youngest of eight children. At the age of six, his Irish family moved to Cleveland's Ohio City neighborhood. He attended St. Patrick's on the Bridge and later West Tech High School during the height of the Great Depression. He left high school and began working at Atlas Display Fixture Company and later Blocks Clothing Store. After several years of working and saving money, George enrolled in the Ohio State University and graduated in 1941 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism. It was during college that George met his future wife, Marjorie Smith. The two married in 1942 and had seven children together.

Following graduation, George became the editor of the Mount Pelier, Ohio newspaper. Shortly after, he took a public relations job at Mount Union College before being hired by the Cleveland Plain Dealer in 1941. He started

at the Plain Dealer as a general assignment reporter and in 1948 became the first radio critic. He would later move to the editorial page, where he remained for the rest of his 41-year-long career. In addition to being a unique voice for the Plain Dealer, George became a respected historian for the City of Cleveland. He wrote nine books throughout his life including *Cleveland: The Best Kept Secret* and *Yesterday's Cleveland*.

George loved the City of Cleveland and, in return, he was honored and recognized countless times throughout his illustrious career. In addition to having been inducted in the Cleveland Journalism Hall of Fame, George has received the Ohiana Award, the Cleveland Award for Literature, the Burke Award for Literature and the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Distinguished Service.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Mr. George Condon, he will forever be remembered by the city that he loved.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NA-
TIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a month-long project dedicated to addressing the victimization of men, women, and children in our nation and raising awareness of the devastating impact of domestic violence. This month, we honor the survivors of domestic violence, whose struggles and successes continue to inspire us all as we rededicate ourselves to ending domestic violence in our communities.

Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of every background and circumstance and affects every sector of our society. It can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual, or behavior used to coerce, threaten or humiliate another person.

When it comes to domestic violence, there is no standard victim. It affects people from all walks of life, and individuals of every race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and socioeconomic background. Domestic violence is not restricted; it can happen to any couple, homosexual or heterosexual, whether they are married, living together, or dating.

Mr. Speaker, despite the progress and achievements we have made in the recent past, there is still so much more to do. It is time to put an end to this devastating crime. Far too many families in this nation are affected by domestic violence. It is a growing epidemic affecting local, national and international communities alike.

In the United States, one in four women and one in thirteen men will be the victim of domestic violence at some point in his or her lifetime and over 3.3 million children witness domestic violence each year. Further, domestic violence can also act as a precursor to more serious crimes. In 80% of intimate party homi-

cides, regardless of which partner was killed, domestic violence was present during the relationship prior to the killing. We must remember that these victims are not statistics, but people.

Mr. Speaker, victims of violence often suffer in silence, with limited options, not knowing where to turn for support and guidance. We need to break this silence. Local domestic violence agencies, shelters, victim services providing legal, emotional, and medical support are vital to helping victims and their families heal. To effectively respond to domestic violence, we must support efforts to help expand these services and to continue to foster awareness.

The Recovery Act passed by Congress in 2009 and signed by President Obama provided a total of \$225 million to the Office of Violence against Women for grant funding for programs which expands efforts to curtail domestic violence.

These vital funds help communities develop and enhance strategies to curb domestic violence, enhance services to people victimized by domestic violence, and work in cooperation to develop education and prevention strategies directed towards issues of domestic violence. Through knowledge, action and awareness we can take the necessary steps forward to reduce the prevalence of violence in our communities.

In addition, as part of the Affordable Care Act, women will receive free preventative care, including domestic violence screenings and counseling as well as ensure that insurance companies may no longer classify domestic violence victims as people with pre-existing conditions.

This month, let us recommit ourselves to ending domestic violence in our communities. We have a responsibility to continue to broaden our efforts to end violence against men, women and children. But we cannot solve this crisis alone. We must work together to create support, expand resources and eliminate barriers for victims of domestic violence. Stopping domestic violence means saving lives.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I urge all Americans to take time this month to honor domestic violence survivors, applaud their strength and courage, and find out what you can do to help prevent domestic violence in your community.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL SAIGAL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Neil Saigal, a remarkable young man who will be remembered as someone who lived life's moments to their fullest. His presence impacted, and changed for the better, all those who were fortunate enough to be in his company.

It's hard to imagine that such a bright flame has been extinguished, and even harder to imagine that we won't one day see Neil again with his camera in hand, a story to tell, and a witty remark on his lips. While we all miss Neil, we take comfort in knowing that God had better plans for him, and that he's found

peace. Before Neil passed away he was living in India, surrounded by family and everything he loved in life. He was learning meditation, practicing yoga, and playing any number of sports every day.

Even though we often measure life in years, with Neil it is more fitting to measure it in terms of accomplishments. Everything Neil did, he did in splendid fashion. After graduating from Clovis West High School in 2003, he went on to attend the University of California, Irvine, and received a degree in Psychology in 2008. While at U.C. Irvine he was a member of the Crew team, a researcher in the Brain Imaging Center, and a great friend to all his classmates. His success at U.C. Irvine included receiving a patent for MEFWAY, and being awarded a 1st place prize at the Young Investigators Award by the Society of Nuclear Medicine, in Toronto. He continued his academic pursuits as a Fulbright Scholar, attending the Karolinska Institute where he continued his research in brain imaging. Soon after, he attended the University of Cambridge, in England, on a full scholarship. Neil's most notable accomplishment however was not academic, but moral—living compassionately, selflessly, and always thinking of those around him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering Neil for his thirst for life, love of nature, insatiable curiosity, humble spirit, and warm heart.

HONORING CAROLE DILLON-KNUTSON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carole Dillon-Knutson of Novato, CA, who is retiring after 20 years of public office. She served 16 years on the Novato City Council and four years on the College of Mann Board of Trustees, earning the appreciation of her constituents and peers for her many accomplishments that enhanced the community's quality of life.

First elected to the Novato City Council in 1994, Carole is especially proud of significant projects that she worked with colleagues to create including the Novato Arts Center, the Gymnastics Center, several development projects at the former air field at Hamilton from a large wetlands restoration to transitional housing, improvements on Grant Avenue (the city's downtown artery), restoration of City Hall, and refurbishment of the Novato playgrounds.

Carole also represented the community on key boards and commissions such as the Association of Bay Area Government's Executive Committee, the North Bay Division of the League of California Cities (President in 2001), the Marin County Council of Mayors and Council members (President in 2004), the Transportation Authority of Marin Executive Committee, and the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Agency Board.

Carole says she feels "a deep comfort in the priorities and accomplishments that I originally set as my goals: to create a balanced approach and focus on the quality of life issues so important to the residents of Novato."

Mr. Speaker, I know Carole-Dillon Knutson is looking forward to spending more time with her family, including five grandsons. Please join me in congratulating her on her years of service and in wishing her well in her retirement.

OPENING REMARKS FOR THE
SCREENING OF THE LAST MOUNTAIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. Thank you for coming this evening and welcome. I am excited to introduce to you The Last Mountain and I am proud to host its screening. It left quite an impression on me when I saw it and I trust it will do the same for you.

Scientific research shows that Mountaintop removal mining is devastating to both the environment and the health of Appalachian communities. It has created a water quality crisis in streams where the debris and spoil from mining sites have been dumped. It has created an environmental crisis for aquatic life in those streams and for the most biologically diverse forests in the world, which are being systematically destroyed by Mountaintop removal.

Mountaintop removal mining has created a public health crisis for people depending on those streams. The research shows that Appalachian residents of areas affected by mountaintop mining experience significantly more unhealthy days each year than the average American; and women who live in areas with high levels of mountaintop coal mining are more likely to have low birth-weight infants and poor birth outcomes.

Not only is mountaintop removal mining environmentally harmful, but it is actually a job destroyer, not a job creator. Studies have shown that mountaintop removal mining has actually had a negative impact on Appalachian employment. Because Mountaintop removal mining relies on enormous machines instead of individual, skilled miners, the number of mining jobs needed to produce each ton of coal has been drastically reduced. Mountaintop removal mining is essentially eliminating the miner from coal mining, contributing to a decrease in mining jobs.

In 1948, there were 126,000 coal-mining jobs in West Virginia and 169,000,000 tons of coal mined. In 2010, however, only 20,000 of these jobs remain despite the fact that almost the same amount of coal—144,000,000 tons—had been mined. This job loss did not result from any regulation. Instead, it occurred because coal companies themselves have replaced workers with machines and explosives. The evidence is clear: mountaintop removal mining destroys both mountains and jobs.

Coal mining in general has experienced a diminishing share of employment in Appalachia as well. The cause is falling demand for coal. According to the Federal Reserve, the capacity of already permitted and active coal mines set an all-time record in 2010, while the utilization of that capacity was at a 25-year low. So, while enough permits have been approved to achieve a new record level of coal

mine capacity, there is simply not enough demand for all of the coal that these mines can produce. Demand for coal, or the decision by consumers to use cleaner, more energy efficient forms of energy, is not something the EPA controls. It is a decision by made by electric generating plant operators and investors. Increasingly, they have chosen to fuel their power plants with natural gas, rather than coal.

Just last week, a study in the prestigious American Economic Review found that the damage from coal-fired electrical plants costs more than twice as much as the electricity they generate. Coal plants wreak \$53 billion worth of damage per year, not considering the enormous harm from climate change.

The Environmental Protection Agency is in the process of trying to fulfill its duty to increase scrutiny of Appalachian mountaintop mining permits. The efforts in the House to undermine the EPA are wrongheaded. I have fought them on the floor and I have fought them as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs, Stimulus Oversight and Government Spending of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. And I will continue to fight to stop not only mountaintop mining, but also coal.

Coal-based energy creates ponds of ash that are so toxic the Department of Homeland Security will not disclose their locations for fear of their potential to become a terrorist weapon; it fouls the air and water with sulfur oxides, nitrogen oxides, particulates, ozone, mercury, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and thousands of other toxic compounds that cause asthma, birth defects, learning disabilities, and pulmonary and cardiac problems . . . for starters.

In contrast, several times more jobs are yielded by renewable energy investments than comparable coal investments. We must redirect the resources of this great nation away from things like war and counterproductive spending cuts and toward creating millions of new jobs in the economic sector of tomorrow; green energy. I will be introducing a bill to create a Works Green Administration which will harness the innovative power of NASA to help create, refine, and ready for distribution the very technologies that put the power in the hands of the people. It will put people to work promoting and installing wind and solar micro-technologies, energy efficiencies, and much more.

Until then, I hope you enjoy the screening tonight. Thank you for your interest and for your time. I look forward to working with you to save mountains, streams, forests, and livelihoods.

IN RECOGNITION OF FATHER
DANIEL G. CAHILL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Daniel G. Cahill. On September 17, 2011, Father Dan will be recognized as Festival Chieftain at the Irish Festival at the Jersey Shore in Sea Girt, New Jersey. Father Dan continues to provide outstanding spiritual guidance for the members of